

# PRESS RELEASE



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**ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS**

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## USTR NEWS UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

On April 30, U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Ron Kirk praised Malaysia for the progress the country has made on protecting intellectual property rights (IPR), and announced the removal of Malaysia from the U.S. Special 301 Watch List. The Special 301 Report annually reviews the adequacy and effectiveness of U.S. trading partners' protection and enforcement of IPR. In 2011, Malaysia passed copyright law amendments that significantly strengthen its protection of copyrights and its enforcement against piracy, and promulgated regulations designed to provide protection against the unfair commercial use, as well as unauthorized disclosure, of test or other data generated to obtain marketing approval of pharmaceutical products. Removal does not mean there are no IPR enforcement challenges in Malaysia. Such challenges include retail-level piracy, border enforcement, and the implementation of Malaysia's pharmaceutical data protection regulations. We will continue to collaborate with Malaysia and governments around the world to strengthen IPR protections, which are critical to the growth of innovative, entrepreneurial economies.

For more information, please go to <http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/press-office/press-releases/2012/april/ustr-releases-annual-special-301-report-intellectual>